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HOMEMAKERS' CHAT

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U. S. DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF INFORMATION

SUBJECT: "Hot Water for Rural Home-Makers"....Information from home
electrification specialists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Release on Receipt

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Hot water at the turn of the faucet! Those words mean little to most homemakers in cities and towns. They've had hot water in their homes for as long as they can remember. They take it for granted.

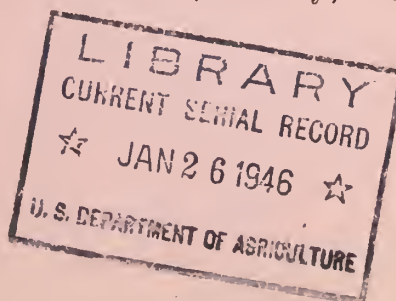
But to the homemaker who lives in the country....hot water at the turn of the faucet...is almost magic. It's something they've dreamed about.

Home electrification specialists of the Department of Agriculture say, however, that homemakers should not take the electric water heater for granted...and expect the best results.

For good service from an electric water heater....see that it is properly insulated...and installed in the right place. The main thing to remember is ... don't pipe water any further than necessary.

In most homes the best place for an electric heater is the kitchen...for that's where both city and rural homemakers use hot water most frequently. Even if you have a laundry house outside...place the heater in the kitchen...for you wash clothes only once a week...while you use hot water in the kitchen almost constantly.

Then...you have your heater adjusted to provide hot water from about 130 to 150 degrees. This range not only is sufficient and safe...but is good from many other standpoints...including mechanical operation, economy, and convenience..



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1. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 1997; 277: 1039-1043.

$\Psi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\psi_1 + i\psi_2)$

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After the heater is installed....for the sake of economy...and your water supply ... you'll want to cut down on unnecessary use.

One of the best ways to stop water waste is to keep a careful check on all faucets. See that none of them drip....for even one dripping faucet causes a great waste of water, electricity, and money. It's a gradual waste....one which homemakers don't always notice....but it's one of the worst thieves of your hot water supply.

You can make your hot water go further too....if you'll use less when rinsing dishes. Washing and rinsing dishes under running water is extravagant. Use a hot suds bath in a dishpan....then rinse the dishes all at once by any method you choose.

Then watch those times when you let large amounts of hot water go to waste. Don't....for example...let a tub of bath water cool while you do other tasks about the house. Or again....on washdays don't let a whole tub of hot water cool... while you sort out the wash. Plan your routine so that the clothes are ready before the water is drawn.

And don't put too much water in the washing machine....it will cut down the efficiency of the washer and cause excessive splashing.

These are a few ways in which any one can plan the use of hot water in the home....treat your electric water heater well use only as much hot water as you need....and your electric heater will be one of the most useful and economical helpers in your home.

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